



# Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club

## Newsletter

### March 2017

Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club 355 Gorge Road West Victoria, B.C. V9A 1M9  
Phone: 250-590-8193 (Info only) Website: [www.vckc.ca](http://www.vckc.ca)

#### Notices

March 1 – Dragon Boat Kickoff  
March 2- Wake Up the Gorge Planning  
March 17 – Social Event  
April 1 – Paddle for the Kids

NB: See calendar item on website for details; meet at the clubhouse unless noted otherwise

**A friendly reminder that VCKC policy requires that paddlers avoid the Colquitz River from March 1 thru June 30.**

#### Executive News

The VCKC Executive elected 2 new members at the February Meeting. Please welcome **Susan Logan** as our new Newsletter editor. Susan is a new member with a background in non-profits, community service, and newsletter publishing. She feels this is an ideal position to get to know VCKC and its members. Please welcome Susan to the club when you see her (this would be her first Newsletter).

**Arthur Caldicott** is our incoming backup webmaster. He has agreed to take on this role in addition to his responsibilities as Storage Director. Arthur has a background in computing and will be transitioning responsibility for our website maintenance ([www.vckc.ca](http://www.vckc.ca)) from **Victoria Mann**. Be sure to thank Arthur for taking this on when you see him. Of course, we know the amazing work Victoria has done and will miss her after she transitions fully from her position later this year.

Programs across the club are getting into full swing. **Paddle for the Kids** kicked off on February 19, and there are full-day Voyageur trips every Sunday in March. **Wake Up the Gorge** planning is under way. A WUTG planning meeting will be held at the clubhouse on March 2 at 7:00. Check the website for upcoming canoe and kayak courses as they have been scheduled through the spring. Also, be sure to check out the full range of summer programs for canoe trips available to members that will take place all across the country. 2017 is a big year for our paddling programs.

Joe Boyd

## Canoe Program Update

Spring paddling should bring nicer weather for getting out on our lakes and ocean. The spring canoe schedule will be out for the next newsletter, and the courses may already be on the website by the time you read this. We will have some beginner level canoe paddles after the LW1 classes, so new graduates, and rest of us as well, have a chance to get some paddling in.

David



Anyone for a snowy paddle - Wendy Clapp 2-10-17

## Dragon Boat Program Update

This year we at VCKC Dragon Boat are planning to revive the mixed team, as well as put together a team for the BC Seniors' Games!

Please mark your calendars for our 2017 program kick-off meeting at the clubhouse on March 1st at 7PM. We're eager to start moving ahead with our plans, and welcome all interested parties - experienced and new to the sport. If you are interested in paddling, coaching, sterning, or calling contact us and let us know.

Come be part of the program that saw our women's team receive medals in three race festivals, and consolation prizes in two others! Returning Co-Directors Paula and Kim plan to build on the success of last year's smooth paddling season. Make 2017 the year you jump in the boat with us!

Kim Capson & Paula Gough Co-Directors, VCKC Dragon Boat Program

## February Social

VCKC's **Family Day Party** was the first 2017 monthly social. It was a success. So much laughter! We played three water games in canoes, being careful not to tip. The water was icy as we all found out when we paddled with bailers. As the sun was setting, we decided to head into the clubhouse for prizes and dinner. By 6:30 we were sitting down to a truly lucky potluck dinner. Without any guidance or suggestions, a great feast appeared. Attendees were Maureen Scott, Colin Hegan, Susan and Jack Logan, Sue and Bon Lee, Jeff van den Driesen, David Dorosz, Helene Poulin, Julie-Anne Dorosz, Irena Jazwinski, Ken Gibbard, Joe Boyd, Roy Scully Jen Smith & Jean Chandler.

In March, our social will be a **St. Patrick's Day paddle**. Sunset will be a little later than this month so paddle games will be the order of the day unless weather is inclement in which case indoor games will precede the potluck part of the party. The challenge that you must prepare for if you wish to win this prize is to have the most creatively green contribution to the potluck table.

Please remember to mark your food contributions for special diets and for sensitivities, for example: GLUTEN DAIRY, NUTS (particularly peanuts), MEAT, EGGS, VEGETARIAN, VEGAN, etc.

Jean Chandler, Director at Large, Social

## Kayak Program Update

Kayak courses are on the calendar! We are offering four **Basic Kayak Skills** courses, two **Level 1 Kayak** courses and one **Introduction to Currents** course. There may be other courses added as the season progresses depending upon the level of interest expressed by our membership. Descriptions of the two Paddle Canada courses are available on the Paddle Canada website. The Introduction to Currents course description is available on the Sea Kayak page of VCKC's website.

To register for a course simply click on the link on the calendar and that will take you to the registration page. Registrations will be accepted up to one week before the course start date. It is recommended that you have at least 20 hours of paddling experience following a course before taking a Level 1 course. At this time we only have 4 kayaks available for members to use for courses. They will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. If, when you go to register for a course, you find that there are no club kayaks available, and you do not have your own, you will have to arrange to rent or borrow a kayak.

We are planning to offer evening clinics once a week again this summer. These clinics were very popular last year. We haven't yet settled on the day of the week that they will take place. Stay tuned to the newsletter and calendar for details.

The courses are as follows:

**(one day course - \$40)**

- March 11
- March 25
- April 2
- May 13

**(two day course - \$80)**

- April 22 & 23
- June 3 & 4

**Introduction to Currents (one day course - \$15)**

- March 18



A note about the instructors of these courses: all of VCKC's kayak instructors are volunteers, this is how we keep our fees so low. They are all VCKC members and are certified by and registered with Paddle Canada. The reason they volunteer their time to instruct is simply to help paddlers to be safer on the water....that is their motivation. Well, that and having fun! Happy paddling!!

If you have questions or suggestions please contact Roy Scully or Linda Hall at [kayak@vckc.ca](mailto:kayak@vckc.ca).

**March 8<sup>th</sup> – Reel Paddling Film Festival 6:00pm-9:00pm @ The Roxy Theatre on Quadra | \$12 a ticket (\$15 at the door)|**

**March 30<sup>th</sup> – Expedition Kayaking with Russell Henry 6:30pm-9:00pm @ Ocean River Sports 1630 Store Street. | FREE |**



## Wake Up To Wake Up The Gorge!

Paul Newman, when planning Newman's Own salad dressing, said "If we ever have a plan, we're screwed".

Unfortunately, I'm not Paul Newman, so let's get together - those of you who wish to volunteer for the many jobs which make WUTG such a success.

We'll meet at the clubhouse at 7:00pm March 2, to work out who does what. Please RSVP me, Ralph Rossman, at [outrigger@vckc.ca](mailto:outrigger@vckc.ca)

As well, if you wish to volunteer, but can't make the meeting, please let me know.

Ralph Rossman  
Outrigger Program Director



Marathon canoe team preparing for the upcoming outrigger race season 2-12-17

## Voyageur Program Update

The Voyageur program held an open day for those who wanted to try the big boats.

We had 17 persons attend the 1/2 hour training session, and 14 paddlers enjoy the 1 1/2 hour paddle up the gorge.

For the newbies and seasoned paddlers Phil reviewed safety and comfort requirements for enjoying your paddling experience. Stories of past experiences helped both lighten the mood and add to the session.



Alan, Doug & Bill preparing the Shawnigan (Voyageur) for the Paddle for the Kids practice runs.



The **2017 Paddle for the Kids** kickoff held February 19th was very successful. 32 paddlers came for the harbour paddle and either participate in or watch the resumes of the Kawa and Pacific Dance. We enjoyed great weather and finished the day off with a brunch put on by Jean Chandler (our Social Director at large) and her crew of dedicated volunteers. Special thanks to Cobs bakery for the tasty donations.

We learned about our purpose to raise money for Camp Shawnigan and the disabled children who enjoy the experience. I encourage all club members to donate to this worthy fundraiser and put smiles on the faces of our Island's disabled children.

Now we are onto the business of the practices in some exciting Salish Sea waters.

All practices leave the clubhouse at 8:30 sharp so come early and park at the dry cleaners and car pool to the paddle.

Here are the dates:

**February 26** - Leader Joe Boyd will take us through Sooke Harbour and up the Sooke River Estuary

**March 5** - Leader Doug Linton will take us to waters off Sydney to be determined based on weather

**March 12** - Leader Roy Scully will take us to Race Rocks and the waters off of Metchosin and Colwood

**March 19** - Leader Skeeter McEvoy will take us to Ladysmith Harbour and beyond

**March 26** - Leader Don Munroe will lead us on the classic MapleBay to Cowichan Bay trip

Finally we finish with the PFTK 2017 on **April 1, 2017**

All please join and enjoy the Big Canoe experience, safe and fun.

Phil (Skeeter) McEvoy

The Luncheon following the opening day Paddle for the Kids was a great success. The kitchen staff worked hard to create a welcoming venue for the paddlers upon their return. Coffee and tea were available upon arrival. The lunch featured: fruit cups, beans, potato patties, waffles, sausages, bacon, eggs, bread and bakery treats.

Entering the kitchen from the hall and exiting the kitchen from the pass-thru area where condiments and cutlery were available solved the traffic congestion between the kitchen and the eating area.

There were many comments about the success of this lunch, however the greatest kudos go to Phil, our master chef and Voyageur Director. Other preparation helpers in the kitchen included Ken Gibbard, Julianne Dorosz, Judith Leonard and Mavis Pillar. What a great job they did.

As is always the case, club volunteers stayed to ensure the clubhouse and kitchen were completely cleaned up with rat food removed to the outdoor bins. Thanks to Ron Williams for washing the bulk of the dishes and several other members for drying dishes, cleaning the kitchen, storing the tables and chairs etc. A note of thanks to Doug Linton for taking the broken tables to his repair centre for refurbishing.

Jean Chandler, Director at Large, Social



## March 2017 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	Mar 1 7:00 PM Dragon Boat 2017 Kick-off Meeting	2 7:00 PM WUTG Planning Meeting	3	4
5	6	7 7:30 PM VCKC General Meeting	8	9	10	11 12:00 PM Dragon Boat Learn to Paddle
12	13	14 7:00 PM Executive Meeting	15 7:00 PM GWI Steering Committee Meeting	16	17	18 12:00 PM Dragon Boat Learn to Paddle
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1 6:00 AM Paddle For The Kids: Finale
2	3	4 7:30 PM VCKC General Meeting	5	6	7	8 2017 Wake Up the Gorge

## Club Contact Information

### **Officers**

President	<a href="mailto:president@vckc.ca">president@vckc.ca</a>
Joe Boyd	
Vice-president	<a href="mailto:vpresident@vckc.ca">vpresident@vckc.ca</a>
Tim Marks	250 386-6004
Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vckc.ca">treasurer@vckc.ca</a>
Mark Sondheim	
Secretary	<a href="mailto:secretary@vckc.ca">secretary@vckc.ca</a>
Hélène Poulin	
Past President	<a href="mailto:pastpres@vckc.ca">pastpres@vckc.ca</a>
Linda Thomson	

### **Program Directors**

Canoe Program	<a href="mailto:canoe@vckc.ca">canoe@vckc.ca</a>
David Dorosz	
Dragonboat Program	<a href="mailto:dragonboat@vckc.ca">dragonboat@vckc.ca</a>
Paula Gough & Kim Capson	
Kayak Program	<a href="mailto:kayak@vckc.ca">kayak@vckc.ca</a>
Roy Scully	
Outrigger Program	<a href="mailto:outrigger@vckc.ca">outrigger@vckc.ca</a>
Ralph Rossman	
Marathon Canoe Program	<a href="mailto:marathon@vckc.ca">marathon@vckc.ca</a>
Darrelle Butler	
Voyageur Program	<a href="mailto:voyageur@vckc.ca">voyageur@vckc.ca</a>
James (Phil) McEvoy	

### **Other Executive**

Education, Standards & Safety	<a href="mailto:safety@vckc.ca">safety@vckc.ca</a>
Ken Gibbard	
Membership	<a href="mailto:membership@vckc.ca">membership@vckc.ca</a>
Muriel Johnson	
Clubhouse and Grounds (maintenance)	<a href="mailto:clubhouse@vckc.ca">clubhouse@vckc.ca</a>
Sandy Rattray	250 386-9144
Boat & Locker Storage	<a href="mailto:storage@vckc.ca">storage@vckc.ca</a>
Arthur Caldicott	
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Jean Chandler	250 727-6923
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Jennifer Yee	
Director at Large (events& volunteers)	<a href="mailto:director3@vckc.ca">director3@vckc.ca</a>
Bill Buckley	

### **Executive Appointed Positions**

Newsletter Editor	<a href="mailto:newsletter@vckc.ca">newsletter@vckc.ca</a>
Susan Logan	
Webmaster	<a href="mailto:webmaster@vckc.ca">webmaster@vckc.ca</a>
Victoria Mann	